

WASHINGTON CRITIC



EVERY EVENING.
BY THE
WASHINGTON CRITIC COMPANY,
BAILEY KILBOURN, PRESIDENT.

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THE WASHINGTON CRITIC,
Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, MAY 29, 1889.

PRESIDENTIAL RECEPTIONS.

The Cabinet meets on Tuesdays and Fridays at 12:30 p. m.

Senators and Representatives in Congress will be received by the President every day, except Mondays, from 11 until 12.

Persons not members of Congress having business with the President will be received from 12 to 12:30 on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Those who have no business, but call merely to pay their respects, will be received by the President in the East Room at 1 p. m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

VISITORS TO THE DEPARTMENTS.

Secretaries Blaine, Proctor and Tracy have issued the following order for the reception of visitors:

Reception of Senators and Representatives in Congress, from 10 to 12 o'clock.

Reception of all persons not connected with the Departments, at 12 o'clock, except Tuesdays and Fridays, which are Cabinet days, and Thursdays in the Department of State, when the members of the Diplomatic Corps are exclusively received.

Persons will not be admitted to the building after 2 o'clock each day, unless by card, which will be sent by the captain of the watch to the chief clerk or to the head of the bureau for which the visit is intended. This rule will not apply to Senators, Representatives or heads of Executive Departments.

The Secretary of the Treasury receives Senators and Representatives from 10 to 11:30 a. m. and other persons from 11:30 until 1 p. m., except Tuesdays and Fridays, Cabinet days.

The Postmaster-General receives persons having business with him from 10 a. m. until 1 p. m., except on Tuesdays and Fridays, Cabinet days.

The Secretary of the Interior receives Senators, Members of the House of Representatives and officers of the Executive Departments from 10 until 9, except Tuesdays and Fridays (Cabinet days). The general public is received from 12 until 2, except Tuesdays, Fridays and Mondays, which is Interior Department day at the White House.

THE MENTONE INCIDENT.

There is shown a disposition on the part of certain surface-reasoning newspapers to make light of the complaint lodged with the State Department by two ladies insulted by French officials at Mentone, and to sneer at the idea of an inquiry into the affair by this Government. The fact that a bill for dresses was in dispute, and that the ladies were arrested on the frivolous charge of a meddlesome interference with the whole incident a trivial character. This is shallow reasoning. There is no reason, thus far, to doubt the statement that two American ladies were shamefully treated by petty officers, and a failure to inquire promptly into all the circumstances of the case would be inexcusable in the State Department. Fortunately, at the head of that Department is a man than whom none is better informed of the degree of protection this nation should extend its citizens abroad and than whom none would be likely to act more vigorously and sensibly.

It is a notorious fact, one to which scores of ladies in Washington can testify, that Americans are constantly imposed upon by French rascals and that among these rascals are more rapacious or conscienceless than the modistes. Exorbitant prices to Americans are a matter of course, but more than this, all petty devices, such as threats of legal proceedings, are resorted to in the enforcement of outrageous claims and falsely-alleged contracts. It is to the credit of French courts that when these cases are really tried foreigners are protected in their rights, but the dressmakers and milliners, relying upon the proverbial carelessness and desire to avoid all annoyance on the part of Americans, attempt constantly what is neither more nor less than a process of intimidation. They do not expect the suits they threaten to be tried, but anticipate a compromise in which the strangers shall be bleed freely. In the Mentone case the American ladies exhibited a little resolution, the dressmaker found pliant official bullies to do her bidding and the result was, from the account given, an outrage justifiable from no point of view. It is inconceivable that French law should allow the sudden imprisonment of women in a filthy cell on any such charge as that preferred, an imprisonment without opportunity afforded for defense or explanation.

No doubt had the American Consul at Mentone been of the right sort no such outrage as that reported could have occurred. In his weakness and inefficiency, and the fact that he is himself a Frenchman, may be found explanation of much of the affair, and the chance is that a representative so pusillanimous will be promptly removed. Such action will have a good effect, aside from the more formal inquiry to be made. That this inquiry should occur, and at once, does not admit of question. In the weak policy of our State Department in the past it

found reason for the indignities to which Americans abroad have been so often subjected. It is a more virile Department now, and Americans all over the world may congratulate themselves on the fact.

TIME FOR STOPPING IT.

It is becoming more and more apparent that the murder of Dr. Cronin in Chicago was the result of a feud between different wings of an Irish organization, and that it was doubtless to prevent his exposure of the evil doings of others that he was put out of the way. In other words, the United States has made the scene of Celtic schemes, feuds and crimes.

Is it not about time that the "Irish" business in this country stopped? We have nothing to do with Old World affairs. We have, or should have, only Americans here. We want no Corcoran vendettas or Irish plottings excited in this country. Is not the time arrived when Americans should make it evident that they are tired of the whole business? It cannot be afforded that the United States should be made the theatre of the schemings of any foreign race against any government or against each other.

FOR THE NAME OF THE FAMILY.

THE CRITIC wishes to remark that the newspapers are altogether too careless in their attention to details. In testimony whereof we present the case of Mrs. Benjamin Harrison of Berkeley, Va., formerly Miss Mattie Blake, the nearest relative of the President, has just paid a short visit to the White House. It has appeared during the past week in various leading New York and other newspapers that Mrs. Harrison was not expected in Washington, and in each Mrs. Harrison is announced as "the nearest relative of the President." Now everybody knows this is not true, in newspaper offices and outside of them, yet the careless editor, the careless proof-reader and the careless printer let it go, and day after day a palpable mistake is given circulation wherever the paper reached. Others, almost as bad, are not infrequently, and as before announced, we rise for the sake of the family of which we are a part, and ask for at least such attention as will prevent the newspapers from appearing ridiculous.

THE OPPOSITION TO THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. BEVERLY TUCKER AS A COMMISSIONER TO ITALY.

It is a gentle reminder that the war is not over and that the indications of peace and good-fellowship between the sections recently visible here in the presentation of a flag to Pickett's Division by the Philadelphia Brigade were slightly premature. This is particularly unfortunate, as General Wallace and Mr. Tucker's mission to Italy was to effect a settlement of difficulties between the North and South in that island. As it now stands it would appear that they will have to remain and settle the difficulty between North and South at home before going elsewhere on similar tours.

EX-SENATOR ALVIN SAUNDERS OF NEBRASKA.

who has been appointed a member of the Utah Board of Registration and Elections, 21 years of age. It is pleasant to note that, occasionally, in this land of early decadence, some man over 70 still energetic and in the fight and it is pleasant to note such a man successful.

"CHERCHER LA FEMME," say the French.

When a crime has been committed, Dr. Cronin of Chicago was taken to his death in a carriage drawn by a white horse. Why don't the Chicago police look for a red-headed woman?

REV. J. C. MYERS OF INDIANA WAS STRUCK BY LIGHTNING WHILE PREACHING AT NEW LEBY, IN THAT STATE, LAST SUNDAY.

His light, it is feared, is lost. Comment from believers in a special Providence are in order.

SINCE MR. LINCOLN ARRIVED IN LONDON.

that town has been Chicagoized since Mr. Harrison came in.

THE NEW YORK WORLD SUGGESTS MR. RUSSELL HARRISON FOR THE RUSSIAN MISSION.

Well, Russell is an editor, and that's an admirable quality.

IT IS DIFFICULT AT THE EARLY DATE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE REPUBLICANS OR THE DEMOCRATS ARE MORE AFRAID OF GROVER CLEVELAND.

CRITICULAR.

Sir Julian Pauncfoote, the English Minister, accompanied by Secretary Blaine, visited the tomb of Washington yesterday at Mt. Vernon, with the following result:

SIR JULIAN'S SPEECH.

I thank you, my friend, for your kind words. From the depths of a large and commodious heart. For what you have done. If it had not been for you, Mr. Washington, I would not be here to-day. Enjoyment of my country. And the pleasure I find on this occasion is marred only by the fact that you are otherwise engaged. And cannot be on deck to join me and my friend here. In the flowing bowl. The wine and wassail. And the other features incidental to a trip of this kind. Don't you know? And I came to this United States. Were flies on you, but my feelings have undergone a change. And if there is anything I am glad of, it is that you organized this Republic. True, so that at this time I can have the happiness of being in it as the representative of the Monarchical branch of our Common English family. And I'm doing a very agreeable bit of representing to-day. This is my first visit to your tomb, Mr. Washington. But I hope to have that pleasure often. So we will run along now. And see you later. Good morning.

It's about time now to turn the hoos on the cornfield.

Proctor Knott seems to be "a horse on" his owner.

Full of interest—The pawnbroker's loan.

The Washington line is of the opinion that Mr. Fessenden is a bum-pye.

Mr. Bryant should change his horse's name from Proctor Knott to Proctor Can Not.

The wool-grower and the editor know the value of good clipping.

THE TOWN'S PHOTOGRAPH.

Every fine Sunday afternoon there is a pilgrimage of young men and maidens across the Georgetown bridge. They saunter along in a leisurely way until they reach the Virginia shore and then they climb the precipitous pathway that leads to Arlington. Along the roadside are a half dozen gypsy camps located in pretty groves, and this is where the merry parties are bound for. On Sundays and holidays these nomadic people do a rushing business telling fortunes, and on Memorial Day they expect to reap a harvest of half dollars. Their entire stock in trade consists of a greasy pack of cards and their wits, and with these they manage to get a very fair living. During the week the men trade horses and the women peddle cheap trinkets of every description about the city.

LADIES AT THE BATH.

Correspondence of The Critic.

New York, May 28.—I went into a fashionable Turkish bath the other day and I found that the American women are just as charming there as they are everywhere else.

A pretty woman is never more charming than when she is just out of the hands of the bath attendant. Her cheeks are flushed, her moist hair curls and her eyes are brilliant with the glow of exhilaration. From the corner of the eye she catches a glimpse of a plump of a gleaming white arm, satin smooth. Of course, these are unfortunate beings, who are not "things of beauty or joys forever" in the bath. Unhappy mortals, whose faces grow crimson and whose hair grows stringy, but these are the exceptions.

I never saw a prettier picture than one that I met on stepping out of my dressing-room, on my way to the bath.

A beautiful woman, in the full bloom of exuberant health, lay stretched at full length on a cushioned couch. Her glorious red hair was spread out over the pillow and hung in gorgeous masses nearly to the floor. The dainty curve of her elbow just showed under her long, white, satin-sleeved arm.

At the foot of the couch sat a neat fresh-faced woman, with a case of shining instruments in her lap. In her hand she held the rosy foot of the indolent lady, and with a steady, skillful instrument, shaped something like a nail-pusher, and sprinkled it with a powder.

Then she took the warm white in her hand and began to stroke it gently. When she touched the sole of the foot the little pink toes curled up protestingly, but she held firmly on until she had rubbed off all the calous skin, and left the bottom of the foot as soft and delicate as a baby's.

She gave it a caressing little pat as she released her hold. Then I saw that the powder was pumice stone.

"I should think it would make the foot tender," I said to her afterward. "Oh, no," she said, "not when it's carefully done."

I left her at work on the other foot and went to the bath attendant.

The lounging steamers chairs were nearly all occupied with motionless, recumbent figures, who looked in their white sheets and Egyptian-like head dresses, like a flock of swans, like a congregation of nuns, like a crowd of empty place and sat down.

In the chair next to mine sat a woman who must have weighed at least 200 pounds. She was a fat, round, red-faced woman, who had brought a novel, and sat placidly reading. Now and then a huge drop of moisture fell on her book, but she did not heed it. She sighed and turned her head, but whether she was affected by the book or the heat I could not tell.

Opposite her sat a sharp-elbowed dame who gazed with evident envy at the fat woman's voluminous dress.

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